



## COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND CABLE

D.T.C. 13-5

August 26, 2013

Petition of Comcast Cable Communications, LLC to establish and adjust the basic service tier programming, equipment, and installation rates for the communities in Massachusetts served by Comcast Cable Communications, Inc. that are currently subject to rate regulation.

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### DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND CABLE FIRST SET OF INFORMATION REQUESTS TO COMCAST CABLE COMMUNICATIONS, LLC

Pursuant to 801 C.M.R. § 1.01(8)(g), the Department of Telecommunications and Cable ("Department") submits to Comcast Cable Communications, LLC ("Comcast") the following information requests:

#### Instructions

1. Each request should be answered in writing on a separate page with a recitation of the request, a reference to the request number, the docket number of the case, and the name of the person responsible for the answer.
2. Do not wait for all answers to be completed before supplying answers. Provide the answers as they are completed.
3. These requests shall be deemed continuing so as to require further supplemental responses if Comcast or its witness(es) receives or generates additional information within the scope of these requests between the time of the original response and the close of the record in this proceeding.
4. The term "provide complete and detailed documentation" means:  
  
Provide all data, assumptions, and calculations relied upon. Provide the source of and basis for all data and assumptions employed. Include all studies, reports, and planning documents from which data, estimates, or assumptions were drawn and support for how the data or assumptions were used in developing the projections or estimates. Provide and explain all supporting work-papers.
5. The term "document" is used in its broadest sense and includes, without limitation, writings, drawings, graphs, charts, photographs, phono-records, microfilm, microfiche, computer printouts, correspondence, press releases, handwritten and/or typed notes,

records, reports, bills, checks, articles from journals and/or other sources, e-mails, SMS text messages, blog postings, RSS feeds, web pages, social media postings such as Facebook and Twitter, and/or other data compilations from which information can be obtained and all copies of such documents that bear notations or other markings that differentiate such copies from the original.

6. If any one of these requests is ambiguous, notify the Department so that the request may be clarified prior to the preparation of a written response.
7. File an original and three copies of the responses with Catrice C. Williams, Secretary of the Department not later than 5:00 P.M. on Wednesday, September 11, 2013.

#### Information Requests

- D.T.C. 1-1 Referring to the Labor Cost and Policy Changes and Schedule B of Comcast's FCC Form 1205:
- a. Identify whether the commissions and the time element associated with the installation of the drop for unwired installations are removed, as required by the Department in C.T.V. 04-3/04-4.
  - b. If the commissions and the time element associated with the installation of the drop for unwired installations are not removed, provide a FCC Form 1205 revised to comply with the Department's Order in C.T.V. 04-3/04-4.
- D.T.C. 1-2 Referring to the Worksheet for Calculating Permitted Equipment and Installation Charges of Comcast's FCC Form 1205:
- a. Provide a detailed narrative explaining the reduction in the Customer Equipment and Installation Percentage on Step A Line 4 from 0.1569 on the previous form to 0.1085 on the current form.
  - b. Provide a detailed narrative explaining the drop in Total Labor Hours for Maintenance and Installation of Customer Equipment and Services on Step A Line 6 from 26,911,566 on the previous form to 18,822,281 on the current form.
- D.T.C. 1.3 Referring to Schedule C, provide a detailed narrative explaining why the Total Maintenance/Service Hours for Digital Transport Adaptor ("DTA") units decreased from 3.8 million on the previous form to 3.1 million on the current form while the Total Number of Units in Service increased from 16.9 million on the prior form to 25.7 million on the current form.

- D.T.C. 1-4 Provide a detailed narrative with supporting documentation explaining Comcast's determination to combine converter box units into 3 categories on the current FCC Form 1205 when they were separated into 4 categories on the prior FCC Form 1205 and in previous filings.
- D.T.C. 1-5 Referring to the 2013 Installation and Equipment Rates list Comcast included with the FCC Form 1205 for DTA units the current Maximum Permitted Rate ("MPR") is \$1.48, the proposed MPR is \$1.30, and the Operator Selected Rate ("OSR") is \$1.30. However, rates cards submitted to the Department with new prices effective January 22, 2013 list the price charged for DTA units to non-basic subscribers as \$1.99. Provide a detailed narrative explaining why Comcast assessed a rate for DTA that exceeds the proposed MPR.
- D.T.C. 1-6 Referring to Exhibit V attached to FCC Form 1240 for the Town of Acushnet, provide a detailed narrative explaining why the costs for retransmission consent fees for months 1 and 2 for the true-up period are lower than the amounts used on the prior form while the costs of retransmission consent fees increased during the remaining months of the true-up period and for the current projected period.
- D.T.C. 1-7 Referring to the FCC Form 1240 for the Town of Amesbury:
- a. Provide a detailed narrative explaining why there are programming costs in the true-up period when there were no programming costs in the prior projected period.
  - b. Provide a detailed accounting of the increase in the costs for retransmission consent fees on a channel by channel basis.
- D.T.C. 1-8 Provide complete and detailed documentation supporting the costs for retransmission cost fees included in both the true-up period and projected period on the FCC Forms 1240 for each regulated Massachusetts franchise. As a part of Comcast's response, include a list of each channel instituting retransmission consent fees and the amount of each fee.
- D.T.C. 1-9 Provide a detailed narrative explaining the methodology used by Comcast to determine the retransmission consent fees applicable to the rate for each regulated Massachusetts franchise. In the narrative, include an explanation of the differences between the current methodology with the methodologies used by Comcast on FCC Forms 1240 filed with the Department in previous years.

D.T.C. 1-10

For the OSRs listed on the FCC Forms 1240 and FCC Form 1205:

- a. Verify that the OSRs listed on the FCC Forms 1240 and FCC Form 1205 are the service and equipment basic rates actually being assessed to the subscribers in each regulated Massachusetts franchise.
- b. For each regulated Massachusetts franchise in which there is a difference between a listed OSR and the service or equipment basic rates assessed to subscribers provide an explanation for this discrepancy.
- c. For each regulated Massachusetts franchise in which there is a discrepancy between the OSRs and the service and equipment basic rates assessed to subscribers, provide FCC Forms 1240 and FCC Form 1205 revised to reflect the actual rates assessed to subscribers.

D.T.C. 1-11

Provide a detailed narrative with supporting documentation explaining Comcast's methodology for estimating the subscriber count for the projected period on the FCC Forms 1240.

D.T.C. 1-12

Provide in an Excel file, a spreadsheet detailing the most recently approved MPR, Franchise Related Cost ("FRC"), and OSR and the proposed MPR, FRC, and OSR for each regulated Massachusetts franchise.